

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method implemented via a client-server system for allowing a
2 first client station to cause a second client station to display a predetermined
3 resource page, said method comprising the steps of:

4 providing access to a client-server system including a first client station, a
5 second client station, and a server station, the stations being disposed in electronic
6 communication;

7 providing a browser program for displaying resource pages on the second
8 client station;

9 at the first station, transmitting an address for the resource page to the
10 second client station;

11 at the second client station, receiving the address of the resource page from
12 the server station; and

13 at the client station, operating the browser program to download the
14 resource page.

1. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of providing access to a
2 client-server system includes providing access to the Internet.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein the resource page is a web page,
4 and wherein the transmitting step includes transmitting the URL of the
predetermined web page.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of providing access to a
client-server station includes providing a server station configured to mediate
communication between the first client station and one or more passenger stations,
including the second client station.

1 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the transmitting step includes
2 sending the resource address from the first client station to the server station and,
3 then, operating the server station to broadcast the resource address to the second
4 client station.

1 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein the step of receiving the resource
2 address from the server, includes sending the address to the browser program on
3 the second client station, and operating the browser program to download content.

1 7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of generating a
2 browser window on the second client station, whereby the browser window
3 communicates with the server station through a communication applet.

1 8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
2 providing a communication applet on the second client station; and
3 operating the communication applet on the second client station to transmit
information from the server station.

1 9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of operating
2 the communication applet to communicate data between the first and second client
3 station.

1 10. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of operating
2 the communication applet to receive data input from a user.

1 11. An interactive computer system for allowing a first computer to
2 cause one or more second computers to display a predetermined web page, said
3 system comprising:
4 at least one first computer connected to computer network;
5 one or more second computers connected to the computer network; and
6 a server computer connected to the computer network, the server computer
7 having a computer program storage device and a program residing thereon, the
8 program including instructions executable by the server computer for performing a
9 method of transmitting a pre-selected URL resource address from the first
10 computer to the second computer, the resource address identifying a
11 predetermined web page to one or more of the second computers for access
12 thereon and such that the predetermined web page may be displayed by each of
13 the second computers.

1 12. The system of Claim 11, wherein the second computer includes a
2 browser program for downloading files received from the server computer.

1 13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising programming means
2 for linking the one or more second computers with one or more second computers,
3 such that a first computer controls, at least partially, the browser program on the
4 one or more second computers.

1 14. The system of Claim 13, further comprising programming means
2 for predefining a set of websites and a connection scheme among the websites, the
3 programming means being operable by a user of a first computer to control, at
4 least partially, browser navigation on the one or more second computers.

1 15. The system of Claim 11, further comprising programming means
2 for defining a set of website URLs, such that the second computers may be guided
3 through one or more of the websites defined by the set of URLs.

1 16. A method of annotating a web page via an interactive computer
2 network, said method comprising the steps of:

3 providing access to an interactive computer network including a first
4 computer, a server, and one or more second computers;

5 providing a first annotation program operable with a first web browser
6 residing on the first computer;

7 providing a second annotation program operable with a second web
8 browser residing on one of the second computers;

9 operating the first annotation program to annotate the web content residing
10 on the first computer;

11 at the server, receiving input from the first annotation program
12 representative of the annotation provided on the web content;

13 operating the server to interact with the second annotation program so as to
14 annotate the web content residing on the second computer such that the annotation
15 provided thereon corresponds to the annotation provided on the first computer.

1 17. The method of Claim 16, further comprising the step of operating
2 the first computer to move a mark placed on the web content thereon, to a
3 different location on the web content thereon, such that the corresponding mark
4 appearing on the second computer moves to a second location on each of the web
5 content displayed thereon, wherein the second location on the second computer
6 corresponds to the second location on the web content of the first computer.

1 18. The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of operating
2 the first computer to mark over a discrete location on the arbitrary web content
3 appearing thereon, such that a corresponding mark is made over a corresponding
4 location on the web content appearing on the second client station.

1 19. The method of any one of Claim 16, further comprising the step of
2 synchronizing pointers on each of the second computers to correspond to a
3 location of a pointer on the first computer.

1 20. The method of Claim 16, further comprising the steps of sizing a
2 window for displaying web content on each of the second computers such that the
3 window corresponds to the size of a corresponding window for the web content
4 appearing on the first computer.

1 21. The method of Claim 16, further comprising the steps of operating
2 the first client station as a pilot station and restricting navigation of the world wide
3 web on each of the second client stations.

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1 22. A method for linking at least one pilot client station with a plurality
2 of passenger client stations and guiding each of the passenger stations through a
3 plurality of web sites, the method comprising the steps of:

4 providing access to a network in communication with the Internet and
5 including a pilot client station, one or more passenger client stations, and at least
6 one server station disposed in communication with each of the pilot and passenger
7 stations;

8 providing a server program on the server station operable to facilitate
9 communication between the pilot station and the passenger stations;

10 providing a browser program on each of the pilot and passenger stations,
11 the browser programs on the passenger stations being operable to download web
12 content upon receipt of a URL;

13 operating the pilot station to define a set of website URLs;

14 transmitting the set of predefined URLs to each of the passenger stations;
15 and

16 guiding each of the passenger stations through one or more of the websites
17 defined by the set of URLs, the guiding step including operating the browser
18 program on each of the passenger stations to download the content of a web page
19 using the URL transmitted thereto.

1 23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the transmitting step includes
2 transmitting the URLs via the server station.

1 24. The method of Claim 22, wherein the guiding step includes guiding
2 each of the passenger stations to a website, including preventing the passenger
3 stations from accessing a website other than one common website designated by
4 operation of the pilot station.

1 25. The method of Claim 24, wherein the guiding step further includes
2 the step of defining a subset gated community comprising a predefined collection
3 of URLs, and wherein the guiding step further includes the step of guiding each of
4 the passenger stations into the gated community, whereby each of the passenger
5 stations can freely move between one or more of the collection of predefined
6 URLs.

1 26. The method of Claim 22, wherein the guiding step includes
2 operating the browser program on each of the passenger stations to download web
3 content directly without passing content through the server station.